

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as set forth below:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) ~~The storage as recited in claim 1 wherein said non-volatile memory stores~~ A storage comprising:  
  
a non-volatile memory storing a first inode locating a first file in said storage and also storing a journal comprising a list of committed inodes; and  
  
a block manager configured to copy said first inode to a second inode, wherein said block manager is configured to change said second inode in response to updates to said first file, and wherein said block manager is configured to atomically update said first file in response to a commit of said first file by writing said second inode to said non-volatile memory, whereby said second inode locates said first file in said storage, and wherein said block manager is configured to record said second inode in said journal.
3. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 2 wherein said commit of said first file comprises a commit command received from an external source which updates said first file.
4. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 3 wherein said commit command comprises a file close command.
5. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 3 wherein said commit command comprises an fsync command.
6. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 2 wherein said journal further includes a checkpoint record including a description of an inode file, a block allocation bitmap, and

an inode allocation bitmap.

7. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 6 wherein the description comprises inodes for each of said inode file, said block allocation bitmap, and said inode allocation bitmap.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a computing node configured to perform one or more write commands to a file  
and a commit command committing the one or more write commands to  
said file; and

a storage coupled to receive said one or more write commands and said commit  
command, wherein said storage is configured to copy one or more blocks  
of said file to a copied one or more blocks, said one or more blocks  
updated by said one or more write commands, and wherein said storage is  
configured to update said copied one or more blocks with write data  
corresponding to said one or more write commands, and wherein said  
storage is configured to copy a first inode locating said file in said storage  
to a second inode and to update pointers within said second inode pointing  
to said one or more blocks to point to said copied one or more blocks, and  
wherein said storage is configured to atomically update said file by writing  
said second inode responsive to said commit command, and wherein said  
first inode is stored in an inode file, and wherein said inode file is  
identified by a master inode, and wherein said inode file is atomically  
updated with said second inode by writing said master inode subsequent to  
said commit command.

9. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 6 wherein said commit command  
comprises a file close command.

10. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 6 wherein said commit command

comprises an fsync command.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 11~~ A method comprising:

copying a first inode to a second inode, wherein said first inode locates a first file  
in a storage;

modifying said second inode in response to one or more changes to said first file;  
and

atomically updating said first file by establishing said second inode as the inode  
for said first file, wherein said establishing comprises storing said second  
inode in a journal stored in a nonvolatile memory.

13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising writing a master inode corresponding to an inode file including said second inode to a checkpoint record in said journal.

14. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13 wherein recovering from a system failure comprises:

scanning said journal to locate a most recent checkpoint record and zero or more inodes subsequent to said most recent checkpoint record within said journal;

copying said master inode from said most recent checkpoint record to a volatile memory; and

updating an inode file corresponding to said master inode with said one or more

inodes subsequent to said most recent checkpoint record.

15. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14 wherein said updating said inode file comprises:

copying one or more blocks of said inode file storing said one or more inodes to a copied one or more blocks; and

updating said master inode in said volatile memory to point to said copied one or more blocks.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in ~~claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said block map further comprises a first inode allocation bitmap indicating which inodes within said first inode file are allocated to files, the method further comprising:

copying said first inode allocation bitmap to a second inode allocation bitmap;

modifying said second inode allocation bitmap to reflect one or more inodes allocated to new files; and

establishing a ~~second~~ third inode within said block map to said second inode allocation bitmap subsequent to said modifying said second inode bitmap.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 16 wherein said block map further comprises a first block allocation bitmap indicating which blocks within a storage including said block map are allocated to files, the method further comprising:

copying said first block allocation bitmap to a second block allocation bitmap;

modifying said second block allocation bitmap to reflect one or more blocks allocated to files; and

establishing a ~~third~~ fourth inode within said block map to said second block allocation bitmap subsequent to said modifying said second block allocation bitmap.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in ~~claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said establishing said second inode is performed in response to a commit command.

19. (Original) The method as recited in claim 18 wherein said commit command is a close file command.

20. (Original) The method as recited in claim 18 wherein said commit command is an fsync command.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The storage as recited in claim 21 wherein said non-volatile memory stores~~ A storage comprising:

a non-volatile memory storing a first inode locating a first version of a file in said storage and also storing a journal comprising a list of committed inodes;  
and

a block manager configured to copy said first inode to a second inode, wherein said block manager is configured to change said second inode in response to updates to the file, and wherein said block manager is configured to atomically update the file, producing a second version of the file, in response to a commit of the file by writing said second inode to said non-volatile memory, wherein said second inode locates said second version of said file in said storage, and wherein said block manager is configured to record said second inode in said journal.

23. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 22 wherein said commit of the file comprises a commit command received from an external source which updates the file.

24. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 23 wherein said commit command comprises a file close command.

25. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 23 wherein said commit command comprises an fsync command.

26. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 22 wherein said journal further includes a checkpoint record including a description of an inode file, a block allocation bitmap, and an inode allocation bitmap.

27. (Original) The storage as recited in claim 26 wherein the description comprises inodes for each of said inode file, said block allocation bitmap, and said inode allocation bitmap.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 28~~ A method comprising:

copying a first inode to a second inode, wherein said first inode locates a first version of a file in a storage;

modifying said second inode in response to one or more changes to the file, creating a second version of the file; and

atomically updating the file to the second version by establishing said second inode as the inode for the file, wherein said establishing comprises storing said second inode in a journal stored in a nonvolatile memory.

30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 29 further comprising writing a master inode corresponding to an inode file including said second inode to a checkpoint record in said journal.

31. (Original) The method as recited in claim 30 wherein recovering from a system failure comprises:

scanning said journal to locate a most recent checkpoint record and zero or more inodes subsequent to said most recent checkpoint record within said journal;

copying said master inode from said most recent checkpoint record to a volatile memory; and

updating an inode file corresponding to said master inode with said one or more inodes subsequent to said most recent checkpoint record.

32. (Original) The method as recited in claim 31 wherein said updating said inode file comprises:

copying one or more blocks of said inode file storing said one or more inodes to a copied one or more blocks; and

updating said master inode in said volatile memory to point to said copied one or more blocks.

33. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in ~~claim 28~~ claim 29 wherein said block map further comprises a first inode allocation bitmap indicating which inodes within said first inode file are allocated to files, the method further comprising:

copying said first inode allocation bitmap to a second inode allocation bitmap;

modifying said second inode allocation bitmap to reflect one or more inodes  
allocated to new files; and

establishing a ~~second~~ third inode within said block map to said second inode  
allocation bitmap subsequent to said modifying said second inode bitmap.

34. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 33 wherein said block map  
further comprises a first block allocation bitmap indicating which blocks within a storage  
including said block map are allocated to files, the method further comprising:

copying said first block allocation bitmap to a second block allocation bitmap;

modifying said second block allocation bitmap to reflect one or more blocks  
allocated to files; and

establishing a ~~third~~ fourth inode within said block map to said second block  
allocation bitmap subsequent to said modifying said second block  
allocation bitmap.

35. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in ~~claim 28~~ claim 29 wherein said  
establishing said second inode is performed in response to a commit command.

36-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a computing node configured to generate a plurality of write commands to update  
a first file and a commit command defined to commit the updates to the  
first file;



an interconnect to which the computing node is coupled, wherein the computing node is configured to transmit the plurality of write commands and the commit command on the interconnect; and

a storage coupled to the interconnect and configured to store the first file, wherein the storage is configured to atomically update the first file to reflect the plurality of write commands responsive to the commit command.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 40 wherein the first file on the storage prior to the plurality of write commands is a first version of the first file, and wherein the storage is configured to create a second version of the first file in response to a first write command of the plurality of write commands, and wherein the storage is configured to atomically replace the first version with the second version in response to the commit command.

42. (Currently Amended) The storage apparatus as recited in claim 41 wherein the first version is associated with a first inode, and wherein the second version is created by copying the first inode to a second inode and modifying the second inode, and wherein the atomic update is performed by writing the second inode.

43. (Currently Amended) The storage apparatus as recited in claim 40 wherein the storage is an object-based storage and wherein the plurality of write commands and the commit command address a file object corresponding to the first file.

44. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 40 further comprising a second computing node coupled to the interconnect, wherein the second computing node is configured to generate a second plurality of write commands to update the first file and a second commit command defined to commit the updates to the first file, and wherein the second computing node is configured to transmit the second plurality of write commands and the second commit command on the interconnect, and wherein the storage is configured to

atomically update the first file to reflect the second plurality of write commands responsive to the second commit command.